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ABSTRACT

This book for students contemplating medical school and medical students in postgraduate training is based on in-depth interviews with medical students at various stages of training. Each chapter also includes insights on the chapter topic by Bernard Virshup. Chapters address the following topics: (1) anticipation--the need for realistic expectations; (2) the first year--coping with the workload and self-doubts; (3) student diversity--special problems faced by minority students; (4) the second year--reevaluating career goals; (5) relationships-- medical school and marriage; (6) the third year--moving into the "doctor" role through clinical activities; (7) challenging issues--coping with medical errors; (8) fourth year--senior metamorphosis and specialization; and (9) graduation and the future--residency, fellowship training, medical practice, and retirement. (Individual chapters contain reference notes.) (DB)

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